



May 3, 2017

Via Regular Mail

Senator Joe Donnelly
720 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Proposed Budget – Cost Share Reductions

The Honorable Joe Donnelly:

I am writing today on behalf of the 30,000 Hoosiers who are insured with MDwise on the Marketplace Exchange. Many of our members rely on the ACA's cost sharing reductions (CSRs) to make that coverage attainable. We understand that Congress has tentatively agreed upon a budget to keep the Federal Government operating through the end of this fiscal year. However, that proposed budget compromise does not include funding for CSRs.

As you know, the CSR is a fundamental part of keeping copays and deductibles affordable for low income households (below 250 percent of the federal poverty level). CSRs are received by approximately 50 percent of MDwise's Marketplace enrollees. These individuals would find it very challenging to maintain their insurance coverage if funding for the CSR is not maintained.

Moreover, absent an appropriation from Congress, the loss of CSR funding would likely trigger significant losses for insurers like MDwise. MDwise agreed to offer coverage to our members with the expectation that lower premiums would be offset by the funding made possible through the cost sharing reduction payments.

Absent these payments, MDwise will be forced to either increase premiums significantly or withdraw from the Marketplace Exchange.

We urge you to support funding for cost sharing reduction payments in the proposed budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Parker".

James Parker
President / CEO